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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

THE SECRETARY - ROOM 222

2 6 MAR 1993

IN REPLY REFER TO: 7330-7/1700A3

Honorable Owen Pickett House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Pickett:

This is in reply to your letter of March 3, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of several of your constituents regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Your constituents are specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take your constituents' concerns into account when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Your constituents' letters will be included in the record of the proceeding. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994.

Richard J. Shiben Chief, Land Mobile & Microwave Division Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures

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LETTER REPORT

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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

OWEN PICKETT 2ND DISTRICT VIRGINIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515 March 3, 1993

PKB 92-236

COMMITTEES:

ARMED SERVICES

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Office of Legislative Affairs Federal Communications Commission Room 808 1919 M Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20554

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The Honorable Owen Pickett U.S. House of Reps. Washington; D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Pickett

I have had an interest in aviation longer than I can remember. As a youth, my father and I would build and fly free flight models as well as tethered models. As a teen, I became interested in radio control models, and full scale airplanes. I completed a solo scholarship while a cadet in the Civil Air Patrol, and as an adult I have earned my private pilot rating. As a private pilot I am working on several add on ratings to my licence, however, I still receive a great deal of pleasure from building and flying model aircraft of all sizes and types.

I am writing to you today at the urging of the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA). It would seem that the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) is considering a rule change that would greatly affect my radio control hobby. As I understand it PR Docket 92-235, if adopted would reduce the number of frequencies available for my hobby and greatly reduce safety.

Mr. Pickett I don't understand all the technical aspects of the proposed rule changes so the following is a brief exert of information that the AMA sent me.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72 - 76 MHZ band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

The FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations. Out of the 50 frequencies presently used for radio controlled airplanes only 19 will be left if these new rules are adopted.

Mr. Pickett safety is of paramount concern with radio control modelers, and Murphys Law does not exist. Some of my models weigh as much as 35 pounds, fly at speeds in excess of 100 MPH, and cost as much as a thousand dollars each. Now it doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out what might happen if someone turns on an out of tune cell phone at a local airshow; out of control models crashing into crowds, buildings and full scale aircraft.

Please help me to keep Murphys Law out of my hobby by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72 - 76 MHZ band.

Sincerely,

Jews H. Toured IT Jerry H. Cowand II

5409 Silbert RD

Sir,

I am writing about the proposed change PR Docket 92-235. I am a retired person and derive many hours of pleasure from building and flying RC planes. The above mentioned rule change in my mind will cause me and fellow fliers radio problems. I fly on 72 MH. and believe this new frequency with only 2.5kHz. spacing is too close for comfort. The planes I fly cost between \$200.00 and \$500.00 dollars.

In 1991 we were required to up grade our radio equipment to comply with the FCC rule at some expense. Now they want to add telephone frequencies with only 2.5kHz. spacing which would disrupt our signals and endanger people and property. There ought to be a better solution to solve this situation before it becomes a problem.

The radio control of model airplanes is doing through the U.S. and around the world.

I would like to ask in closing that you reconsider this rule change and see that it does not pass.

Respectfully,
David L. Frazier
1681 Godfrey Lane
Virginia Beach, VA 23454

David L. Frazier